

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 11919 262130Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 FMC-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 CG-00 DLOS-09
OES-07 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 /075 W
-----130181 270729Z /11
R 262127Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2290

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DEPARTMENT PASS FMC

E.O.11652:N/A
TAGS: EEWT, UR
SUBJECT: SOVIET MARITIME OFFICIAL SAYS USSR PREPARED TO
FOREGO LOWER RATES

1. DURING MAY 25 LUNCHEON CONVERSATION IGOR AVERIN, CHIEF OF FOREIGN RELATIONS FOR SOVIET MINISTRY OF THE MARITIME FLEET, COMPLAINED ABOUT WESTERN REACTION TO PROPOSALS THAT SOVIETS JOIN ATLANTIC CONFERENCES. HE CONTENDED THAT BALTIC STEAMSHIP COMPANY HAD BEEN PREPARED TO JOIN CONFERENCE IN 1976, ON STIPULATION THAT IT WOULD NEED TEN PERCENT RATE DISCOUNT FOR ONLY TWO YEARS, AND THAT NOW IN 1978, TRUE TO ITS WORD, IT WAS PREPARED TO JOIN CONFERENCE WITHOUT ANY RATE DISCOUNT. AVERIN ASSERTED THAT CONFERENCE IS UNWILLING TO ACCEPT SOVIET PROPOSAL, HOWEVER, OUT OF DEFERENCE TO FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION. FURTHER, HE CONTENDED, FMC WANTS TO KEEP SOVIETS OUT OF CONFERENCES UNTIL RESTRICTIVE CONGRESSIONAL LEGISLATION HAS BEEN ADOPTED.

2. COMMENT: WHILE WE DOUBT THAT AVERIN IS GIVING US THE FULL OR STRAIGHT STORY ON THE WILLINGNESS OF THE SOVIET
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LINE TO ACCEPT CONFERENCE RATES, WITHOUT DISCOUNT, WE WONDER IF SUCH AN OFFER HAS BEEN COMMUNICATED THROUGH MARITIME CHANNELS AND, IF SO, WHAT THE REACTION HAS BEEN
MATLOCK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ALLIANCE, MARINE TRANSPORTATION, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 may 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MOSCOW11919
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780224-0695
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780514/aaaaalrp.tel
Line Count: 59
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2ddab695-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2550831
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET MARITIME OFFICIAL SAYS USSR PREPARED TO FOREGO LOWER RATES
TAGS: EEWT, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2ddab695-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014